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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/833,742	04/13/2001	Frederic D'Allest	P07174US00/RFH	2888

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EXAMINER

IQBAL, KHAWAR

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2686

DATE MAILED: 01/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/833,742

Applicant(s)

D'ALLEST, FREDERIC

Examiner

Khawar Iqbal

Art Unit

2686

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 05. 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable by Grube et al (6104925).

3. Regarding claims 1 and 10 Grube et al teaches a telecommunication system enabling user's terminals that are distributed over a plurality of different territories constituting micro-networks to be put into communication with one another and with at least one operator network, comprising at least one relay satellite (44) provided with means for communicating (ABSTRACT, FIG.2)

with at least one call and control center (12,14) connected to an operator network (col.4, lines 32-40), and

with a plurality of base stations (24,34) each allocated to a specific one of said territories and each having a switching station (16,26,60) for setting up local connections between the user's terminals (20,22,30,32) distributed in the specific territory thereof and for setting up outside connections with the call center via the

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satellite (44) only, said outside connectors being for incoming or outgoing calls other than calls internal to the territory (col. 5, lines 18-65, col. 8, lines 1-25, fig. 2).

Regarding claim 2 Grube et al teaches wherein a terrestrial portion of the base stations are components of standard cellular radiotelephone networks (col. 4, lines 40-45).

Regarding claim 3 Grube et al teaches wherein each base station comprises a station subassembly having a base station transceiver and at least a digital cellular network controller, a local switch arranged for directly establishing communications, through at least an antenna, between distant fixed terminals and mobile user's terminals located in the territory served by the base station (col. 4, lines 32-60).

Regarding claim 4 Grube et al teaches wherein each of said base stations comprises a subassembly having a base station transceiver, a digital cellular network controller and a local switch for directly establishing communications with local terrestrial networks (col. 4, lines 32-60, fig. 2).

Regarding claim 5 Grube et al teaches further comprising direct satellite links between at least two of said micro-networks and traffic interconnection capacities on-board said satellite (col. 4, lines 32-60).

Regarding claim 6 Grube et al teaches further having a direct terrestrial link, by wire or microwave beam between two said base stations (fig. 2).

Regarding claims 7 and 8 Grube et al teaches wherein said outside connections via the satellite are carried out on a broadband carrier dedicated to the outgoing traffic toward the base stations, with addressing by an identification header and over a

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plurality of carriers each having a passband narrower than that of the broadband, each dedicated to one base station for outcoming traffic from the base station (col. 10, lines 1-35).

Regarding claim 9 Grube et al teaches having a plurality of communication center and selection means located in the base station for selecting among the communication centers from the base station (col. 8, lines 1-25).

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Mayfield et al (20030078040), Crosby et al (6628928), Sinivaara et al (6603967), Kingdon et al (6411811), Abu-Amara et al (6317584) and Weiss (6014562) teach telecommunication with a relay satellite.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KHAWAR IQBAL whose telephone number is 703-306-3015.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **BANKS-HAROLD, MARSHA**, can be reached at 703-305-4379.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2684 only)

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Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Khawar Iqbal



Marsha D Banks-Harold
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